

From: [Richner, Donald - HHS](#)
To: [Moore, Gary](#)
Subject: RE: CES odors
Date: Monday, February 23, 2015 1:01:06 PM

Gary,
 Ok, it was not intended as criticism. Just the heads up you asked for earlier.
 Thanks

Donald R. Richner, CIH
 Senior Project Manager
 Houston Department of Health & Human Services
 Bureau of Pollution Control & Prevention
 Office 832-393-5651
 Cell: 713-392-3919

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From: Moore, Gary [mailto:Moore.Gary@epa.gov]
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 12:35 PM
To: Richner, Donald - HHS
Subject: Re: CES odors

Don:

We were working within the Main Warehouse building on the wastewater treatment tank sludges. The only thing I can think of is the exhaust from the air mover. I will check with my guys to see. As you know this stuff has been setting in the tanks for awhile fermenting.

Thanks

Gary Moore

Federal On-Scene Coordinator

U.S. EPA Region 6

214-789-1627 cell

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moore.gary@epa.gov

From: Richner, Donald - HHS <Donald.Richner@houstontx.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 12:19 PM
To: Moore, Gary; Cargas, James P. - LGL; daskanase@hwa.com; 'sshurn@hwa.com'; 'wkitchens@hwa.com'
Cc: James, Daisy - HHS
Subject: RE: CES odors

Gary,

We have reminded the investigators that they are to stop and let you know if they detect nuisance level odor offsite. Darryl had forgotten that request on Friday when he went by which is why you were not informed until I was notified of the odor this morning.

Most of your less pleasant odors at CES now are associated with Semi-Volatile Organics and don't register in the Volatile Organic Chemical TO-15 testing the MAAML does. Note that we also get low PID instrument readings on the materials there. Although we have not gotten complaints at the BPCP, we have heard about them indirectly and will send investigators by more frequently until you can complete removal. The nose tends to get desensitized after working with it all day and on Friday we had wind gusts up to 38 mph which would have made it impossible to keep any odors onsite.

Darryl said it was a moderately strong odor, nothing like the odor when the material leaked last spring. Their clothes and vehicles smelled for days after that site visit, but more than he has smelled in months.

Donald R. Richner, CIH
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From: Moore, Gary [<mailto:Moore.Gary@epa.gov>]

Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 11:01 AM

To: Cargas, James P. - LGL; daskanase@hwa.com; 'sshurn@hwa.com'; 'wkitchens@hwa.com'

Cc: James, Daisy - HHS; Richner, Donald - HHS

Subject: Re: CES odors

James et al:

We do perimeter air monitoring but they are not stationary monitors.

We do sometimes detect odors with our noses but nothing that translates into anything on the meters. Typically, if I get a complaint I will contact Don and see if the COH could do some additional monitoring in the community in addition to our perimeter monitoring which is what we discussed at the beginning of the project. This has happened occassionally and from my recollection, although we can all detect it with our noses, the meters are not detecting meaning it is below the meter detection limits.

There are some odors that we cannot control and there are some that we may be able to control. There are going to be odors from the cleanup operation regardless and we will try to control as best we can.

If the odor that was detected by Mr. Tate was near our trailer, it was likely associated with the original wastes still in FT1004 (elevated phenols). We have not yet been able to get this material disposed. It will have to be treated on-site and then shipped off-site for disposal. We are close to getting everything in order to move forward on this. If COH staff comes to the site to do routine air monitoring on their own or at my request, please have them stop our trailer and give us an update of their results so that we can narrow down the source of the odors and try to recetify if possible.

We have been working closely with the community, especially (b) (6) on (b) (6).

Thanks

Gary Moore

Federal On-Scene Coordinator

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From: Cargas, James P. - LGL <James.Cargas@houstontx.gov>

Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 9:27 AM

To: daskanase@hwa.com; 'sshurn@hwa.com'; 'wkitchens@hwa.com'

Cc: James, Daisy - HHS; Richner, Donald - HHS; Moore, Gary

Subject: RE: CES odors

Don, thank you for the update. I am also including the Trustee and his counsel.

James P. Cargas

Senior Assistant City Attorney

Office of the City Attorney

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Phone: (832) 393-6255

Email: james.cargas@houstontx.gov

From: Richner, Donald - HHS

Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 9:03 AM

To: moore.gary@epa.gov

Cc: Cargas, James P. - LGL; James, Daisy - HHS

Subject: CES odors

Gary,

Darryl Tate was out to the property on Friday afternoon and said the odors offsite were pretty strong, but then so were the winds.

We will try to get our people out more often to let you know whether the odor is leaving the property, but it would also be useful if your staff could check offsite too.

Although we have not received any complaints recently, I am told others have.

Thanks

Donald R. Richner, CIH

Senior Project Manager

Houston Department of Health & Human Services

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